2011 – 2018 Timeline

Mar 11 2-9pm The Great East Japan Earthquake occurred (M5.9
9:25pm) Evacuation order issued by the government for citizens living within 3 km of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. Citizens living between 3 km and 10 km away from the power station were ordered to take refuge indoors.
Mar 12 9:40am Evacuation order issued by the government for citizens living within 10 km of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.
3:30pm Hydrogen explosion at Reactor No. 1 (Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station).
6:25pm Evacuation order issued by the government for citizens living within 20 km of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.
Mar 14 11:00am Hydrogen explosion at Reactor No. 3 (Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station).
Mar 15 6:00am Hydrogen explosion at Reactor No. 4 (Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station).
11:00am Citizens living within 20 km away from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station were ordered to take refuge indoors.
Apr 9 Fukushima Board of Education announced the decision to open satellite high schools, to be attended by high school students from 9 high schools affected by the nuclear disaster.
Apr 22 Katsurao Village and Namie Town were announced as Planned Evacuation Zones. Hirono Town and Kawachi Village were announced as Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones, and the area within 20 km of the power station (excluding the sea) was established as aRestricted Zone.
May 10 Temporary re-entry into the Restricted Zone became permitted.
Sep 30 The statues of areas classed as ‘Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones’ were reconfigured and reassigned. Hirono Town voluntarily continued to maintain the town’s evacuation order.
Oct 5 The JR Joban Line restarted operations between Hamae Station (Iwaki City) and Hirono Station (Hirono Town).
Jan 31 Kawauchi Village Office announced their intention to return to Kawauchi Village as soon as possible.
Mar 31 Evacuation orders in Hirono Town, put in place by the town’s mayor, were lifted.
Jun 17 Train by car through specific parts of the Difficult-to-Return Zone became possible.
Aug 1 Wider-Futaba Area Range of Municipalities Association set up 100 cameras inside 6 of the district’s towns and villages, and began live streaming of data.
Aug 20 A 7-Eleven convenience store was reopened in Namie Town. This was the first convenience store to operate within the evacuation zone.
Oct 3 Kawauchi Village, which stands within the 20 km range from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, conducted inspections on radiation levels of all bags of harvested rice. Not a single bag of rice tested over the limits. The village had restarted production of rice since April 2013.
Oct 19 Futaba World local festival was held in Hirono Town for the first time in 14 years.
Dec 27 The last evacuation shelter (set up in Satsuma Prefecture) was closed.

Feb 22 Operation restarted between Hirono I.C. and Joban-Tomio I.C. on the Joban Expressway.
Apr 15 In Namie Town, salmon were released back into the Kidogawa River for the first time in 4 years.
Jun 3 Operation of the JR Joban Line between Hirono Station and Tahara Station was restored.
Aug 19 Nakahara Komatsugawa (a temporary shared housing space) opened in Namie Town.
Sep 15 It became possible for automobiles to pass along Route 6 again.
Oct 1 Evacuation order was lifted in Modo District, Kawauchi Village.
Jan 31 Replacement bus service between Tahara Station and Hamae Station was started. Joban Expressway opened from Tomioka to Namie.
Mar 1 The Joban Expressway between Tomioka I.C. and Namie I.C. was opened.
Apr 1 Futaba Future-High School opened. 120 students started school.
Aug 11 Liactivia flowers grown for trial in Namie Town were sold at Iwaki City’s Central Market. This was the first agricultural product from Namie Town to be sold at market since the disaster.
Sep 5 Evacuation order was lifted for the whole of Namie Town

Feb 27 Construction of Okuma Town Purussato Revitalization Mega Solar Power Plant was completed.
Feb 28 Futaba Re-Creation Revitalization Club (affiliated with Ono Prefectural Hospital) was opened in Namie Town.
Mar 5 Hirono Town (public commercial complex) opened in Hirono Town.
Mar 15 Yo-Tsuki Shopping Center opened in Kawauchi Village.
Mar 16 Construction of Naname Center for Remote Control Technology Development test building was completed. This facility was built to develop movable machinery and devices for use in the decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.
Mar 30 Café Aroajiakopia was opened in Katsurao Village. This was the first food and drink establishment to be opened after evacuation orders were lifted from the whole village.
Apr 30 The first ever Kawauchi-Cho Seiko Half Marathon was held in Kawauchi Village. 1,200 people participated in the race.
Jun 14 Evacuation orders were lifted in Hagi and Katsurao Districts of Kawauchi Village. This marked the lifting of evacuation orders from the whole of Kawauchi Village.
Jul 30 Namie Summer Festival was held for the first time since the evacuation.
Sep 12 A gas station was reopened for the first time in Futaba Town’s Difficult-to-Return Zone.
Oct 25 Macchi Nami Marsh (temporary commercial complex) opened in Namie Town.
Nov 24 4 shops opened in Sakuura Mall, Kawauchi shopping center in Tomioka Town. The rest of the shops at Sakuura Mall opened on March 30, 2017.
Dec 7 Hirono Open Disaster Prevention Space was opened in Hirono Town. This was the first area of urban open space to be opened in the prefecture.

Jan 24 Hizuma Daily Farm in Namie Town restarted shipments of fresh milk. This is the first example of fresh milk shipments from a post-evacuation zone.
Jan 28 Graduation ceremonies held for the final students graduating from the satellite high schools. After graduation, the satellite schools were closed.
Apr 2 The Prefectural Government decided on a basic plan for an archive facility base, documenting the Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear disaster, to be built in Hamae District of Futaba Town. Construction plans were completed by the summer of 2020.
Mar 21 Evacuation orders were lifted in Namie Town (excluding Difficult-to-Return Zones).
Apr 1 Evacuation orders were lifted in Tomioka Town (excluding Difficult-to-Return Zones).
Aug 17 Okuma Shikoshu was open in Ogawa, Okuma Town. The cafeteria is located next to the TEPCO employee dormitory. It was the first eatery to be reopened in Okuma Town.
Aug 27 Collaboration Laboratory of Advanced Decommissioning Science (CLADS) opened in Tomioka Town.
Oct 21 Operations of the JR Joban Line between Tsutsui Station and Tomioka Station restarted.
Nov 3 Futaba Cycling Tour event was held for the first time. Participants travelled to Futaba by train with their bicycles, and visited Hirono Town, Namie Town and Tomioka Town.
Nov 11 Ebirousu Market was held in Namie Town for the first time in 7 years.
Nov 25 Traditional pottery market was held in Namie Town for the first time since the disaster.
Dec 3 Yasunoo sofa Road Race was held in Namie Town for the first time in 7 years.

Mar 26 The Labor Standards Inspection Office and Public Employment Security Office (Hello Work) were reopened in Namie Town.
Mar 31 All temporary housing in Namie Town closed.
Apr 2 Operation of local bus line between Tomioka Town and Kawauchi Village was restored.
Apr 14 Tomioka Town’s Saturn Festival was held for the first time in 5 years.
Apr 23 Futaba Medical Center – A Fukushima Prefecture affiliated hospital – was opened in Tomioka Town.
Jun 16 Community Space Asakusa was opened in Katsurao Village.
Aug 10 Tour de Katsurao Cycling Road Race was held for the first time in Katsurao Village.
Aug 26 Katsurao Steetfair (commercial complex) opened in Namie Town.
Jul 11 A brand new fire station building was opened in Tomioka Town.
Jul 28 J-Village, a specialized soccer training facility reopened in Namie Town.
Jul 30 Minna-no-Kyokuno Namie Carnival (Community Space) opened in Namie Town.
Aug 15 Hayama-no-Matsuri traditional fire festival was held in Tomioka Town for the first time in 8 years.

The Evacuation Zone was expanded from a 3 km radius on March 11 to 20 km the following day. The 30 km radius was designated as an Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones. Entrance to areas within the 20 km zone was restricted via barriers on April 22.

Futaba Promotion Video Made by Considering the Future of Futaba Action Group. Scan QR code to watch the video.

Fukushima Prefectural Government together with Fukushima Prefecture Tourism & Local Products Association started Hope Tourism in 2016. Hope Tourism provides experiences where participants can see, hear and learn about the Fukushima of today by running educational tours. Check the details of these tours at: www.hoptourism.jp/en

Considering the Future of Futaba Action Group

The group was founded in winter 2015, as an impetus for those directly involved in the revitalization of the 8 towns and villages of Futaba District to gather and exchange ideas. Responding to needs following the unprecedented Great East Japan Earthquake and TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Nuclear Disaster, revitalization measures are discussed and implemented by this group. This group came up with the idea behind the creation of this map.

Futaba Town

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